

Message Text

PAGE 01 CANBER 06609 050900Z

13
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W
----- 035496

O R 050820Z DEC 73
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEIDATE 2123
INFO USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0562
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T CANBERRA 6609

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, AS, US, UN CB
SUBJECT: KHMER REPRESENTATION IN 28TH GA: AUSTRALIAN
POSITION

REFS: (A) STATE 236116 (NOTAL) ; (B) STATE 236939 (NOTAL);
(C) CANBERRA 6572 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: GOA HAS REACHED A SOLID DECISION TO
ABSTAIN ON ISSUE OF DEFERMENT IF IT COMES TO A VOTE.
END SUUMARY

2. AT LUNCHEON TODAY (DECEMBER 5) WITH PETER VILENSKI
(WHITLAM'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT) AND AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING
IN FONOFF WHERE I WAS CALLED IN BY SIR KEITH WALLER, WE
DISCUSSED AT CONSIDERABLE LENGTH OUR CONTRASTING ATTITUDES
ON CAMBODIA WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO IMMEDIATE UN
ISSUES.

3. WALLER GAVE ME THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIVE AUSTRALIAN
POSITION ON CAMBODIA SET FORTH IN INFORMAL
PAPER WHICH HE HANDED ME:

SECRET

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(A) GOA POLICY IS TO MAINTAIN NORMAL, IF LOW-
KEY RELATIONS, WITH LON NO1 GOVERNMENT IN PHNOM PEHN; AT
SAME TIME GOA HAS ESTABLISHED CONTACTS WITH GRUNK IN
PEKING. GOA WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THERE RELATIONS AS

LONG AS LON NO1 GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE CAPITAL CAMBODIA
AND IS IN UN.

(B) QUESTION OF GOA RELATIONS WITH EITHER LONG NO1 GOVERN-
MENT OR GRUNK IN THE EVENT OF A UN VOTE UNSEATING THE
REPRESENTATIVE OF LON NO1 GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET BEEN
GIVEN ANY ACTIVE CONSIDERATION BY GOA.

(C) AUSTRALIA , IF IN THE COMPANY OF THE ASEAN PLUS GROUP,
WILL VOTE AGAINST THE NON-ALIGNED RESOLUTION IN THE UN.
IF THE ISSUE OF DEFERMENT COMES TO A VOTE, GOA INTENDS TO
ABSTAIN. IT REGARDS THIS MATTER AS A PROCEDURAL DEVICE
RATHER THAN A SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE.

(D) GOA SEES NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE QUESTION OF ITS
CAMBODIAN POLICY AND THE FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS ON
NORTHWEST CAPE AND CONSIDERS THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO SUCH
CONNECTION; NOR DOES IT SEE ANY US INTEREST BEING SERVED
BY ESTABLISHING SUCH A CONNECTION. IT HOPES THAT DIFFERENCES
IN OUR RESPECTIVE APPROACHES TOWARDS CAMBODIA WILL NOT BE
ALLOWED TO EFFECT THE ATTITUDES OF US AUTHORITIES TOWARDS
MINISTER OF DEFENSE BARNARD'S VISIT.

4. I SHALL NOT INFLICT ON WASHINGTON A REPETITION OF THE
MANY POINTS I MADE TO WILENSKI AND WALLER TO THE FOREGOING
POSITION. A MAIN POINT OF WALLER'S CALLING ME TO HIS
OFFICE WAS EVIDENTLY TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER LINKING
CAMBODIAN POLICY TO NORTHWEST CAPE NEGOTIATIONS, SPECIFICALLY
MENTIONING REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY EA TO AUSTRALIAN
EMBASSY ON NOVEMBER 30 AND DECEMBER 3. I REFUSED
TO BE DRAWN INTO ANY DISCUSSION OF THE LINKAGE QUESTION,
SAVE TO SAY I WOULD REPORT HIS VIEWS TO WASHINGTON.

5. WALLER NOTED AT ONE POINT IN OUR CONVERSATION THAT
THERE HAD BEEN QUITE A DISPALY OF ENERGY SHOWN IN RECENT
DAYS BY US AND ESPECIALLY OTHERS, LIKE JAPAN AND INDONESIA.
HE OBSERVED THAT HAD ALL THIS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH GOA
SECRET

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SEVERAL WEEKS AGO IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN HELPFUL. THIS
PROMPTED ME TO REFRESH HIS MEMORY ON THE MANY CONVERSATIONS
ON CAMBODIA I HAVE HAD WITH GOA OFFICIALS FROM
WHITLAM ON DOWN OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, ALTHOUGH THE
AWG DEFERMENT APPROACH HAD ONLY RECENTLY COME TO MY
ATTENTION. WALLER ACKNOWLEDGED THIS.

6. COMMENT: AS STATED IN REFTEL (C), WE WILL NOT BE
ABLE TO REVERSE WHITLAM'S DECISION ON ABSTENTION ON
DEFERMENT MOTION, BUT OUR REPRESENTATIONS, AND BELATEDLY
THOSE OF JAPAN AND ASEAN COUNTRIES, SHOULD BE HELPFUL IN
KEEPING AUSTRALIA FROM RECOGNIZING GRUNK SHOULD LATTER BE
SEATED IN UN. NOW THAT WE HAVE WORRIED THE AUSTRALAINS

ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THEIR CAMBODIA POLICY ON THE BARNARD
VISIT. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL ABOUT FURTHER RESORT
TO THIS LINE, LEST IT IMPINGE ADVERSELY ON NWC NEGOTIATIONS
WHERE WE HAVE MUCH AT STAKE.
GREEN

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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